(b) the States where the scheme was introduced;

(c) the reasons for its failure; and

(d) the loss incurred in the implementation of this scheme during the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Since its inception, the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) has been quite popular and beneficial to the farmers. This is clear from the fact that during the VII Plan, the scheme was implemented by 19 States, namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Manipur, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and 3 U.Ts of Andaman & Nicobar, Delhi and Pondicherry covering 244 lakh farmers over an area of 430 lakh ha. insuring sum of Rs. 5233.26 crores.

(c) In view of (a) and (b) above, question does not arise.

(d) The total indemnity claims payable during the VII Plan (upto Rabi 1989-90) were Rs. 620.68 crores against a premia income of Rs. 90.54 crores only.

Observing the year 1991 as 'Visit India Year'

1133. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to observe the year, 1991, as 'Visit India Year';

(b) if so, the details of the new trains likely to be introduced in the year to meet the tourist traffic together with the changes in railway services; and

(c) whether any target has been fixed for completion of Kalka-Parwanoo railway line, if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Introduction of train services is a continuous process. Trains are introduced from time to time keeping in view different traffic trends including tourist potential, availability of resources and operational feasibility. A list of new trains proposed to be introduced during the year 1991-92 is as follows:

1. Bombay-Varanasi Express.
2. Tirupati-Secunderabed Express (Via Nadikude).
3. Bombay Central Ahmedabad Inter-City Express.
4. Ranchi-Rourkela Link Express to be linked with Bombay-Howrah Express.
5. Bangalore-Tirupati Inter-city Express.
6. Allahabad-Agra Cantt. Express.
7. Allahabad City-Chhapra Express (MG).
8. Firozpur Cantt.-Jammu Tawi Express.
9. Visakhapatnam-New Delhi Bi-weekly Express.
10. Puri-Tirupati Weekly Express.
11. Porbandar-Wansjaliya Passengers.

(c) There is no proposal to construct Kalka-Parwanoo railway line.

शताब्दी एक्सप्रेस का चलाया जाना

1143. **श्रीमती रत्न कुमारी** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 20 फ़रवरी, 1991 के "वीर अर्जुन" में प्रकाशित हुए इस आशय के समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है कि दिल्ली और भोपाल के बीच सबसे तीव्र गति से चलने वाली शताब्दी एक्सप्रेस कभी भी दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हो सकती है क्योंकि इसकी पटरी के निर्माण में उच्च गति वाली पटरी के लिए आवश्यक नियमों का पालन नहीं किया गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है?

रेल मंत्री (श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) यह कहना सही नहीं है कि नई दिल्ली-भोपाल मार्ग, जिस पर शताब्दी एक्सप्रेस चलती है, पर संरक्षा नियमों का उल्लंघन होता है । इस मार्ग के लिए निर्धारित गिट्टी की गहराई सहित न्यूनतम रेलपथ मानकों की व्यवस्था की गई है । संरक्षा को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए रेलपथ अभिलेखी यानों, दोलनलेखी यानों और पराश्रव्य संसूचकों द्वारा रेलपथ की गहन निगरानी की जा रही है । अधिकारियों और कर्मचारियों द्वारा निरंतर निरीक्षण सुनिश्चित किए जा रहे है । ऐसी निगरानी के आधार पर पर्याप्त अनुरक्षण की व्यवस्था की जाती है जिससे कि न केवल संरक्षा की स्थिति में रेलपथ का अनुरक्षण किया जाता बल्कि यात्रियों को आरामदायक यात्रा की भी व्यवस्था की जाती है ।

Low consumption of fertilisers

1135. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether consumption of fertilizers per hectare in the country is very low as compared to the other countries; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) The overall consumption of fertiliser in the country is provisionally estimated to be 63.86 Kg./ha. during 1988-89. The per hectare consumption is higher than in Australia, Canada and some other countries, but lower than that of Japan, United Kingdom and certain other countries.

(b) The lower level of fertiliser consumption than some countries is because about 70 per cent of the gross cropped areas is un-irrigated and, therefore, less fertiliser is used by the farmers. Rainfed areas also exhibit lesser cultivation of fertiliser responsive high yielding varieties which in turn results in lower fertiliser consumption.

Abolition of post of General Manager, Govt. of India Press, Minto Road (New Delhi)

1136. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of General Manager was abolished in the Government of India Press, Minto Road, New Delhi some time in the Year, 1986;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is again some move to create the post of General Manager by down grading the post of Joint Director (Tech.) or to transfer the person holding the same post from the Government of India Press, Nasik;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the action being contemplated in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Inquiry into concealment of production capacity by Fertilizer plants

1137. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the multinational financing institutions have been inquiring into the alleged concealment of production capacities by the country's urea and ammonia plants;